

## THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

JUNE 27, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(PROCUREMENT), ASA(ALT)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ACQUISITION AND BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT, ASN(RD&A)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(CONTRACTING), SAF/AQC

SUBJECT: Implementation of Final Report of the Defense Charge Card Task Force

In response to congressional hearings regarding proper oversight of DoD's purchase card program, the USD(C), in coordination with Defense Procurement, established a charge card task force on March 19, 2002 to review charge card programs in the Department of Defense, identify problem areas, and develop recommendations for improvements to both the purchase and travel card programs. The task force's report (attached) was also provided to The Office of Management and Budget in response to their April 18, 2002 memo requiring review and certification of charge card internal controls.

I endorse the recommended improvements to the purchase card program outlined in the task force report and call upon you to provide strong command emphasis on internal controls for both programs. As stewards of the public trust, we cannot tolerate any purchase card or travel card abuse or misuse. Our vigilance must extend from the Pentagon through the Military Departments and Defense Agencies to the base/post/camp/station commanders and subsequently, down through the local card holders, billing officials, and agency program coordinators. Each level shares responsibility for these programs and they must diligently carry out those accordingly.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in creating a reliable government purchase card program. My action officer for purchase card issues is Melissa Rider, melissa.rider@osd.mil or (703) 695-1098.

E.C. Aldridge, Jr.

Attachment: As stated

